



Josephite Associates Friendship ♦ Prayer ♦ Service

Autumn Newsletter 2015

Dear Companions, Sisters and Friends

As we begin our Lenten journeys, we recall the journey of Jesus' life, death and resurrection. We use symbols to remind us of the meaning of this journey

- ❖ the purple cloth to remind us that Lent is a penitential time of change and growth and preparation for Easter
- ❖ a lighted candle to remind us that we share in the journey of the cross with Jesus who is the light and hope of the world
- ❖ a Bible to remind us to take the time to reflect on the Word of God during Lent and to listen to what God is saying to us through the Word
- ❖ a cross to remind us that Jesus loved us enough to lay down his life for us
- ❖ our Caritas appeal envelopes to remind us that Lent is a time to share what we have with those in need
- ❖ seasonal changes – the autumn leaves that remind us of the cycle of life; that all things must die so that they can rise to new life

We think about the need to change and how we can work towards this and we ask God to help us recognize what we need to change in our lives so that we may live more closely with Him. And we ask God to give us the strength we need to change so that we can follow Him more closely every day.

“We can do nothing without God” ... *Mary MacKillop*

Josephite Associate Groups News!!

News from Dunedin...

A group of us went to Kades Restaurant for lunch on the 20th November to celebrate Fr Kevin Morton's 40th anniversary as a priest of the Dunedin Diocese. This was combined with our Christmas celebration. Fr Merv McGettigan started the lunch by saying Grace. All enjoyed a lovely afternoon of friendship!



On the 27th November we visited three members who are residents of St Joseph's Home in Brockville. They are Rita Lauder, Monica Glen and Joyce Kerr who were presented with bouquets of flowers and members shared Christmas treats for afternoon tea with the ladies. We promised to visit more often in 2015. This photo shows our Group Leader, Trish Clark with her aunt, Rita Lauder and Monica Glen.



It was with much sadness in November that we learned of the passing of Kevin Burdon from Lake Hayes. He was a very faithful member of the Josephite Companions for many years and was at one time a leader, helped by Sr Maureen Cahill in Southland. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Patricia, and his family.

Through the mercy of God, may he rest in peace.

Denise Mitchell

From Te Awamutu...

Our Companions Group recently hosted Sr Therese McConway, who came to talk to us about the Scottish Beginnings of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. Therese has spent several years in Scotland, immersing herself in Mary MacKillop's maternal family's history and homeland. She has a delightful sense of humour and is a wonderful storyteller. The groups enjoyed her tales immensely.

Therese is journeying throughout NZ sharing the story of Mary's Scottish connections with the Companion groups. In fact Srs Therese and Audrey travelled throughout NZ with their Scottish visitors, Ellen and Frank Short, and stayed in Te Awamutu for a night. We celebrated their presence among us by sharing a fish and chips meal after Mass one Saturday evening. It was lovely to get to know them a little and realize the worldwide connection Mary MacKillop has created.



Congratulations...

Congratulations to Sr Adrienne Gallie RSJ who recently received the emblem and Constitutions of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart when she celebrated her first profession in Sydney. Sr Adrienne was an active member of the Whanganui Companions Group and was instrumental as manager of the Josephite Retreat Centre providing opportunities for retreat and workshop days.

We are thrilled for Sr Adrienne and her family as she is welcomed into the community of Sisters. She will continue her Ministry in the Auckland area.



In the Church of St Francis by the Sea at Manly, Whangaparaoa is a beautiful icon written by the studio of St John the Baptist in Auckland. It was commissioned by a parishioner at St Francis and is modeled on the San Damiano Crucifix painted in Umbria Italy in the 12th Century.



It is an extremely beautiful icon and at the foot of the cross are some figures, which I have enlarged so they can be seen a little more clearly. The figures in the original were thought to have been Umbrian saints but adapting this to our time the writer has included St Therese of Liseux, St Clare of Assisi, St Francis of Assisi, St Peter Chanel and St Mary of the Cross MacKillop.

Every Sunday when I go to Mass I have the pleasure of seeing this and thinking again about Mary's wonderful devotion to the Cross.

Catherine Birt



St Joseph's Day Celebrations 19 March 2015

Please keep the night of Thursday 19 March free for a prayer ritual for Sisters and Companions to be held at Mission Bay. As well as celebrating St Joseph, Liz George will be renewing her Covenant of Affiliation that evening, so it will be quite a special celebration.

INVITATION to the...

**Celebrations for Saint Joseph's Feast Day
Evening Prayer will be celebrated in the
Chapel**

on

**Thursday 19th March
7pm at Mission Bay**

A light supper will follow

**Please bring a plate of finger food to share
and**

**\$\$\$\$ for a raffle with proceeds going towards
House of Bethany**



Rest in Peace



We pray for the repose of the soul of Patricia Waimio, North Hokianga Companions. Patricia was a long time supporter of the Sisters of St Joseph at Panguru, teaching at the Convent. She was a great assistance to Sisters Louise and Christina as they packed up the Convent at its closure.

May she rest in peace



RETREATS AND REFLECTION DAYS

There are a number of retreats and reflection days on offer at Mary MacKillop Centre, Mission Bay during the year. See the attached flyer for information on retreat/reflection days.



ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE

The \$10.00 subscription fee is to cover the costs for producing the quarterly newsletter. The fee is due to be paid on 1 March each year.

Payment may be made by INTERNET: Bank Account details are – Westpac – St Heliers Branch Account No – 03 0263 0109542 00 Name of account - St Joseph's Associateship
Alternatively...

MAIL DIRECT to Patty Dudson – Patty Dudson 10 Golf Road Te Awamutu 3800. If you have any queries regarding 'subscriptions' please phone: 027 6647180

"Gratitude is the memory of the heart"... Mary MacKillop

Our thanks to Trish Daws for preparation of our March prayer/reflection sheet!

HAPPY FEAST DAY!

This month we remember and honour our great patron -
St Joseph!

St Joseph – the perfect example of Christian life ... a man of humility,
trust, dignity, patience, love, faith and hope.

St Joseph pray with us

With warmest regards and blessings,

Peta and Patty
on behalf of the Josephite Companions Leadership Team